

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 00046 040939Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W  
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O 040848Z JAN 77 ZFF-6  
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 67  
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAMA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T AMMAN 0046

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, JO, US, BA  
SUBJECT: TALK WITH CROWN PRINCE HASSAN -- VISIT VAHRAIN  
CROWN PRINCE

REF: AMMAN 6531

1. I SAW CROWN PRINCE HASSAN BRIEFLY EVENING OF JANUARY  
3. HE TOLD ME THAT HE WOULD BE RETURNING TO MANAMA ON  
JANUARY 4 WITH HIS GUEST CROWN PRINCE HAMAD OF BAHRAIN.  
ONE-DAY VISIT IS IN PART TO TRY TO HELP RESOLVE  
DIFFERENCES IN BAHRAIN RULING FAMILY.

2. HASSAN EXPLAINED THAT HAMAD HAS TOLD HIM THAT AL  
KHALIFA FAMILY IS SPLIT OVER SEVERAL ISSUES INCLUDING  
RECENT TROUBLES SURROUNDING A POLITICAL MURDER AND  
DEATH OF SEVERAL PEOPLE BEING INVESTIGATED WHILE  
UNDER INTERROGATION AND CONTINUED US NAVY USE OF  
JUFAIR AND PORT.

3. ON FORMER ISSUE, HAMAD HAS APPARENTLY TOLD  
HASSAN THAT INTRA-FAMILY DIFFERENCES HAVE SERVED  
TO SPLIT RULING FAMILY AND ALSO TO PERMIT FEELING  
OF SLACKNESS OF LACK OF CONCERN TO CREEP IN.

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PROBLEM HAS BLOWN BACK ON JORDANIANS TO SOME  
EXTENT. APPARENTLY THERE ARE A NUMBER OF  
"JORDANIAN" SECURITY OFFICERS ON CONTRACT TO  
BAHRAIN SECURITY AUTHORITIES. HASAN BELIEVES THAT  
BRITISH IN OVERALL CHARGE HAVE LET THE JORDANIANS  
DO MUCH OF THE UNPLEASANT WORK, INCLUDING EARLY MORNING  
ARRESTS FOR INTERROGATION. FACT THAT SEVERAL PERSONS ARRESTED

HAVE DIED, INCLUDING ONE THAT HAMAD SAYS DIED COMPLETELY ACCIDENTALLY, HAS BLOWN BACK ON JORDANIANS. HASAN BELIEVES THAT AT LEAST SOME OF THE JORDANIANS, (SO CALLED, BUT PROBABLY OF PALESTINIAN ORIGIN, ARE PLO SYMPATHIZERS WHO WOULD LOSE NO SLEEP OVER KILLING POTENTIAL SUSPECT WHO MIGHT BE AN EMBARRASSMENT TO PLO OR, ALTERNATIVELY, OF USING DEATHS AS MEANS TO BLACKEN JORDAN'S REPUTATION. HASSAN HOPES TO BRING FACTS TO LIGHT AND TRY TO GET MEMBERS OF RULING FAMILY NOW IN SEPARATE CONTROL OF POLICE AND MILITARY TO STOP FUEDING AND PULL TOGETHER. HE HAS NO HOPES OF SUCCESS, BUT IS WILLING TO TRY APPARENTLY AT URGING OF HIS FRIEND SHEIKH HAMAD.

4. SECOND QUESTION, WHICH HE SAYS IMPACTS HEAVILY ON BAHRAINI ATTITUDES TOWARD CONTINUED US NAVAL PRESENCE, IS PRESSURE FROM PFLP AND IRAQIS TO GET BAHRAINIS TO CUT OFF US LEASE. ABOVE DEVELOPMENTS (MURDER AND ARRESTS) HE SAID ALSO IMPACT ON BAHRAINI OFFICIAL ATTITUDE. HAMAD APPARENTLY TOLD HASSAN THAT BAHRAINIS ARE DELAYING ANY FINAL DECISION PENDING US STUDY TEAM RESULTS OF BAHRAIN'S MILITARY NEEDS DUE IN FEBRUARY. HAMAD IS DETERMINED ON SEEING AN AIR BASE ESTABLISHED FOR "POLITICAL", NOT "MILITARY" REASONS ACCORDING TO HASSAN. HAMAD ALSO PLACES HIGH PRIORITY ON IMMEDIATE PURCHASE OF HELICOPTERS, WITH FOLLOW UP SOMETIME LATER IN FUTURE WITH ACQUISITIONS OF F-5'S.

5. WE ARE NOT FAMILIAR ENOUGH WITH DEVELOPMENTS AT  
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THIS POINT TO OFFER WORTHWHILE COMMENT. HASSAN WISHES TO BE HELPFUL TO US IN LIGHT OF HIS CONVERSATION (REFTEL) WITH DEPSECDEF HERE SOME MONTHS AGO. UNFORTUNATELY TOO WE ARE NOT IN POSITION TO PASS ON ANY INFORMATION TO HASSAN FROM HERE, BUT HE HAS OFFERED ME DEBRIEFING ON HIS RETURN. IF MANAMA OR DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY QUESTIONS THEY WISH ME TO PURSUE, PLEASE SO INDICATE. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL ALSO IF WE COULD HAVE A BRIEF RESUME OF CURRENT STATE OF PLAY IN ORDER TO ABSORB WHATEVER HASSAN MAY HAVE TO REPORT.

6. SUGGEST DEPARTMENT PASS DEFENSE.  
PICKERING

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, VISITS, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, MILITARY BASE LEASES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 04-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, MARR, PINS, JO, US, BA, (HASSAN, CROWN PRINCE)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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